

SPECIFIED FITTINGS

NORTHWEST WORKFORCE COUNCIL



Profile of Those Served With On-the-Job Training

38%	Unemployed 24 months or more
38%	Unemployed 12 months or more
25%	Unemployed 6 months or more
19%	Homeless
38%	Conviction history
13%	Homeless with conviction history
16	Positions created with OJT support
\$3K	Average OJT support/new employee
\$12	Approximate wage, plus benefit package



Established in 1997, Specified Fittings quickly grew to become one of the major manufacturers of plastic pipefittings in North America. The company produces a full line of PVC and HDPE fittings in a range of sizes to meet every need. Twenty percent of the company's total annual sales are exports. In addition to the Bellingham manufacturing plant, which employs approximately 125 people, the company operates manufacturing facilities in Montana and maintains warehouses in six other states. With the downturn of the economy the company explored ways to improve its bottom line and become a greener company.

To remain globally competitive, the company requires a skilled workforce that consists of saw operators, fusion technicians, press operators, shipping and receiving clerks, quality control specialists, parts washers, maintenance technicians and millwrights. An increase in both domestic and international market demands led to a recent expansion. Northwest Workforce Council's (NWC) On-the-Job training program allowed the company to rapidly train and expand its Bellingham workforce, adding a third shift.

WorkSource screened and referred qualified job applicants to the company while NWC developed customized training plans in response to the company's specific skill requirements. Sixteen new positions were created with wages ranging from \$11.00 - \$12.50/hour plus benefits.

<http://www.nwboard.org>